



**For immediate release
October 10, 2007**

**Contact: Wendy Fox
617-626-1453**

STATE OFFICIALS AND PARTNERS CELEBRATE GRANTS TO PROTECT KAMPOOSA BOG ACEC

State officials joined the Kampoosa Stewardship Committee today to celebrate a successful 12-year partnership to preserve and restore the Kampoosa Bog Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Commissioner Rick Sullivan and Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Commissioner Mary Griffin joined Judy Spencer, co-chairman of the Kampoosa Stewardship Committee, and other partners at the Congregation of Marians' property in Stockbridge that overlooks the Kampoosa Bog to acknowledge five new grants to help protect the ACEC.

"The Kampoosa Stewardship Committee is an exceptional model for public-private partnerships and environmental resource stewardship," said Commissioner Sullivan. "The Committee's commitment and dedication to its vision 'to restore and preserve Kampoosa by fostering community stewardship' is exemplified by the multiple grants-funded preservation projects they have successfully implemented."

The Kampoosa Stewardship Committee was established following state ACEC designation of the 1,350-acre Kampoosa bog in 1995. Located in Lee and Stockbridge, Kampoosa is recognized as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern because of the unique, global significance of its ecosystem, the high concentrations of rare species there, and the beauty and inspiration it affords. ACEC designation has helped provide a framework for the cooperative stewardship efforts needed for Kampoosa.

Commissioners Sullivan and Griffin announced five recent Kampoosa Bog grants totaling \$143,125, and congratulated the Stewardship Committee for having raised more than \$400,000 in grant funds to benefit this incredible resource since 1995.

The five new grants for 2007-2008 include:

— more —

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation

– continued –

- \$47,698 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) Natural Resource Damages & Restoration Program, in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFAWS), for the portion of the Housatonic River Floodplain Forest Restoration Project that includes a Kampoosa Bog test site for learning about replanting native species in the bog, plus an education/outreach component for conservation commissions;
- the final payment of a five-year \$75,000 grant from the Massachusetts Environmental Trust for scientific data collection and analysis by Smith College in the bog, coordinated by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission;
- the final payment of a \$10,000 grant from the USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program for habitat management;
- \$51,811 from the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game/Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Incentive Program (LIP), in cooperation with the USFWS for Early Successional Habitat Management, which will control invasive species in the bog;
- \$30,000 from El Paso Corporation, which manages the Tennessee Gas Pipeline that is adjacent to the bog, for the Kampoosa Bog Invasive Plant Control Program, a private matching grant for the public LIP grant above. Officials from the Tennessee Gas Pipeline were at the event to present a check for their grant award.

Also during the event, DCR and DFG presented special certificates of appreciation to the Congregation of the Marians, who own the Kampoosa Bog land and have actively supported its protection over the years, and to The Nature Conservancy Berkshire Taconic Landscape Program, which for over 25 years has worked to preserve this rare ecosystem, control invasive plants in the bog, and administer many of the Kampoosa Bog grants.

“The Department of Fish and Game and our Division of Fisheries and Wildlife are pleased to be able to contribute to the protection and restoration of the Kampoosa Bog through

– more –

– continued –

the award of a Landowner Incentive Program grant,” said DFG Commissioner Mary Griffin. “I would like to congratulate the Kampoosa Stewardship Committee and thank all of the partners who have worked so hard in recent years to preserve this environmental treasure, particularly the Congregation of Marians and The Nature Conservancy.”

Added Wayne Klockner, Massachusetts State Director of The Nature Conservancy, "The Nature Conservancy is honored to be a part of such an effective partnership. In both the recent restoration and these new grants, we have much to celebrate for this important natural area."

The Stewardship Committee includes representatives and participation from the following public and private groups: municipal boards and commissions; the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission; Stockbridge and Lee Land Trusts; The Nature Conservancy; the Congregation of Marians; state agencies such as DCR, DFG, Massachusetts Turnpike Authority, and MassHighway; and the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company.

Since 1995, the Kampoosa Stewardship Committee has undertaken a series of successful projects with the participation and support of an extraordinary and diverse group of citizens and public and private agencies and organizations. Accomplishments include ongoing efforts to control and manage invasive species and provide public education about Kampoosa and the need for preservation and wise stewardship.

For further information about the Kampoosa bog, please contact Judy Spencer, Kampoosa Stewardship Co-Chairman, at 413-298-4742.

###